LNS

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Cover: Girl working in a cotton mill, 1908. Photo by Lewis Hine. See the review of "Life in the Iron Mills" on page 6; see also photos and caption P-1.

P-1: Photos of living conditions and child labor around the turn of the century taken by Jacob Riis and Lewis Hine.

P-2: Photo of marching women in Northern Ireland.
Photo of two ex-prisoners from South Vietnam at press conference in Paris.
Nixon and his gangsters cartoon
Government agency cartoon

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Collective: Anne Dockery, Beryl Epstein, Howie Epstein, Cidne Hart, Sandy Shea, Mike Shuster, Jessica Siegel, Ron Sirak, Nancy Stiefel

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Correspondents: Rosette Coryell--Paris
Schofield Coryell--Paris
Richard Trench--Belfast
Teddy Franklin--Berkeley, Calif.
Box 4547.

continued from page 10---Securing San Clemente.

suggested that the screen is to protect the President from those nasty off-shore breezes.)

Also included was almost $10,000 to "remove dry weeds to eliminate fire hazards; about $2,000 for a flag pole and $476 to paint it; $1,000 to clean Nixon's private beach; $76,000 for landscaping and another $25,000 for "landscape maintenance."

Oh yes, among the less expensive "security items" was $999 for fertilizer and $6.83 for picture frames.

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ATTENTION !

Women United for Action need money to pay for their lawyers' fees and court costs on charges against them stemming from their protest in congress (see story on milk, page 10). Please send contributions to WUA, 58 W. 25th St., New York, N.Y. 10010.

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BRITISH PRIEST REVEALS BRUTAL
PORTUGUESE MASSACRES IN MOZAMBIQUE:
"RIVALING THAT OF MY LAI IN VIETNAM"

LIBERATION News Service

LONDON (LNS)--A British Roman Catholic priest has released information documenting the Portuguese Army massacres of Africans in the Portuguese colony of Mozambique.

In a July frontpage report in the London Times, Father Adrian Hastings said that "faced with the growth of (Mozambique Liberation Front--Frelimo) guerrilla activity, the Portuguese forces have grown ever more brutal, carrying out the systematic genocidal massacre of people in villages thought to have helped FRELIMO."

"There was a whole series of such massacres in the Mucumbura area between November, 1971, for ghastliness each rivaling that of My Lai in Vietman. The security forces feel free in the knowledge that there are no journalists for hundreds of miles and the victims know no European language; but the Spanish missionaries in the area obtained detailed information and themselves buried many of the victims," he said.

Father Hastings' article was based on the reports of Spanish priests working in Mozambique. In Madrid, on July 11, three Spanish Roman Catholic missionaries said that two fellow priests had personally met survivors of the massacre of at least 400 men, women and children at the village of Wiriyamu, which took place in December, 1972.

The three missionaries themselves had been expelled from Mozambique. The two priests who were the original source of the report are now in jail there.

Father Hastings description of the massacre at Wiriyamu, as it originally appeared in the London Times, follows:

"From our search we can vouch for the following facts: On the afternoon of December 16, 1972, the village of Wiriyamu was the victim of a military attack on the part of the armed forces.

"Following a bombardment, the soldiers who had been transported here and had already surrounded the village, invaded it with ferocity, increasing the terror of the inhabitants already terrorized by the bombs. Once inside the village the soldiers started ransacking the huts, and this was followed immediately by the massacre of the people.

"One group of soldiers got together a part of the people in a courtyard to shoot them. The villagers were forced to sit in two groups, the men on the one side and the women on the other, so that they could more easily see those that were being shot. By means of a signal, a soldier indicated whom he wished, either a man or a woman.

"The indicated person stood up, separating himself from the group. The soldier shot him. The victim fell dead. This proceedure brought about the largest number of victims. Many children at the breast and on the backs of their mothers were shot at the same time as their mothers."

A list of the names of 86 people who were among those who were shot in this manner followed.

The report continued: "One woman called Vaina was invited to stand up. She had her child in her arms, a boy of nine months. The mother fell dead with a bullet shot. The child fell with his mother and sat by her. He cried desperately and a soldier advances to stop him crying. He kicked the boy violently, destroying his head. 'Shut up, dog,' the soldier said.

"The prostrate child cried no more and the soldier returned with his boot covered with blood. His fellow soldiers acclaimed the deed with a round of applause. 'Well done, you are a brave man.' It was the beginning of a macabre football match. His companions followed his example.

"Other soldiers, wandering about, forced people into their huts which they then set alight and the people were burnt to death inside them. Sometimes, before setting fire to the huts, they threw hand granades inside which exploded over the victims."

There followed a list of the names of 34 people, among others, who died in this manner.

"Wandering about the village the soldiers found a woman named Zostina who was pregnant. They asked her the sex of the child inside her. 'I don't know,' she replied. 'You soon will,' they said. Immediately they opened her stomach with knives violently extracting her entrails. Showing her the foetus which throbbed convulsively, they said, 'Look, now you know.' Afterwards, the woman and the child were consumed in the flames.

"Other soldiers amused themselves by grasping children by their feet and striking them on the ground."

Ten children, all under five years of age, were named among others as having been killed in this manner.

"Several officers of the Directorate-General of Security (DGS) accompanied the soldiers and were also involved in the killings. One of them before killing, began sometimes by attacking the victims with his fists until they were exhausted. Then he gave them the finishing shot.

"Many of the people were taken outside the village and killed. On the following day many corpses of adolescents and children from 11 to 15 years were found at the Nyantawatawa River. They could be counted by tens. The bodies were totally mutilated.

"Some of them had been decapitated and others had had their heads smashed. The corpses were lying about in different positions. Some were piled up mounds, others thrown aside, some side by side, the greater scattered along the river. There were indications that there had been some ghastly game before the victims were massacred. There were no survivors to explain what happened.

"A voice with authority had kept on shouting: 'Kill them all that no one be left.' One witness said that an Army officer had suggested a policy

of clemency, with the idea of taking these people to a fortified village, but the voice was heard to say: 'These are the orders of our chief, kill them all. Those who remain alive will denounce us.'

"Two children found by accident after the end of the massacre were burnt inside a hut by the same officer of the DGS. These scenes continued until nightfall. Taking advantage of the darkness, which fell rapidly, some victims managed to escape death by flight."

An offical Portuguese spokesman denied the report. He said that Wiriyamu village and the Nyantawatawa River mentioned in Father Hastings report could not be found on Mozambique maps. And General Kaulza de Arriaga, commander in chief of the Portuguese armed forces in Mozambique, refused to comment. A spokesman said that General de Arriaga was tired of "fantastic allegations by the friends" of the Mozambique Liberation Front.

The London Times, though, in an editorial comment on July 11 said: "We believe that the specific nature of the details, including names of some of the victims which are now published, and the standing of the Catholic missionaries who made the investigation, permit little doubte of the substantial accuracy of the report."

The editorial went on to proclaim: "Periodically the Portuguese have made statements that imply that FRELIMO is collapsing for want of local support. But massacres on the scale of Wiriyamu suggest it has support, at least in large areas, and that the Portuguese are resorting in desperation to methods of frightfulness which in the past have usually strengthened the local resistance."

Responding from the United Nations, Salim Ahmed Salini, chairman of the Special Committee on Decolonization from Tanzania, said that the Hastings report "confirms once again the characteristic contempt and callous indifference with which the fascist regime in Lisbon responds to the pleas for reason and sanity addressed to it by the world community during the past several years."

In London, the report of the massacre ruined the carefully prepared celebrations of the 600th anniversary of a friendship treaty between Britain and Portugal.

Two other newspapers have called for a withdrawal of Portuguese Premier Marcelo Caetano's imminent visit to Britain. The Daily Mirror, the biggest selling tabloid, ran a big headline, "This Man is Not Welcome" alongside a grim photo of Caetano, and another popular tabloid, The Sun, called him a "Massacre Premier" and said, "Don't Let This Dictator into Britain."

For centuries Britain has controlled, and still does, huge interests in mining, trading, transport and production fields in Angola and Mozambique. Britain today remains Portugal's most important customer for Portuguese exports, and after West Germany its second largest supplier of imports.

FRELIMO began guerrilla warfare against the Portuguese in September 1964. After almost ten years of fighting, guerrilla warfare covers one third of territory of Mozambique. The Northern provinces of Cabo Delgado and Niassa have been entirely liberated from Portuguese colonial rule, as has part of Tete province. Guerrilla warfare has recently spread into a fourth province, Manica e Sofala in central Mozambique. Over one million people now live free from Portuguese colonialism, under the effective authority of FRELIMO.

Portugal has stationed nearly 100,000 troops in Mozambique: the total troops in Portugal's three African colonies -- Mozambique, Angola, and Guinea-Bissau -- comes to almost 250,000.

And massacres are not a new element in the history of the Portuguese armed forces in Africa. The struggle for independence in Angola began after the Portuguese killed over 3000 people in the capital city of Luanda in 1961. In 1958 Portuguese troops fired on striking dockworkers in Bissau, killing 80. By 1963, the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and the Cape Verde Islands (PAIGC) had begun its fight against Portuguese colonialism in west Africa.

In Mozambique over 500 Africans were killed on June 6, 1960 in a peaceful gathering outside a government official's office in the town of Mueda.

The Portuguese dictatorship is facing mounting opposition at home as well as in Africa. Over 100,000 people leave illegally for Europe annually, many to escape the draft. Thousands of draft resistors are in prison, and army deserters appear both in Europe and in Africa regularly.

Since late 1970, among other actions, an underground Armed Revolutionary Action Group, has destroyed airplanes and helicopters at air bases, bombed a police training college and the U.S. embassy library, and wrecked Lisbon telecommunications. In August 1972, three bomb explosions caused temporary power failures throughout Portugal to mark the swearing-in of the country's president. Most recently, bombs shook three military installations in Lisbon in March.

"This is not the time," said Salim at the U.N., "to fraternize with and give comfort to those who consider the wholesale massacre of innocent people, including women and children, as an integral part of their arsenal in order to maintain their anachronistic colonial presence in Africa. The Portuguese government must, to all intents and purposes, be treated for what it is -- an international outcast."

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MOZAMBICAN PEOPLE: Workers and peasants, workers on the plantations, in the timber mills and in the concessions, workers in the mines, on the railways, in the harbors, and in the factories, intellectuals, civil servants, Mozambican soldiers in the Portuguese army, students, men and young people, patriots; IN THE NAME OF ALL OF YOU, FRELIMO proclaims the general armed insurrection of the Mozambican people against Portuguese colonialism for the attainment of the complete independence of Mozambique.

--FRELIMO, September 25, 1964.

[Note to editors: See packets #531 and 536 for more background on the case and #531 for a photograph to go with this story.]

DEFENDANTS AND 2 SPECTATORS ARRESTED AT PRE-TRIAL HEARING FOR THE GAINESVILLE 8; TRIAL TO START JULY 31 WITH 5 DAYS OF DEMONSTRATIONS

by Candy Hamilton

LIBERATION News Service

PENSACOLA, Fla. (LNS)--Pre-trial hearings for the Gainesville 8--seven members of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Winter Soldier Organization (VVAW/WSO) and a sympathizer-- lasted more than six hours in a real circus atmosphere July 6. The day included the arrest of all the defendants present and two members of the audience, a reprimand for a newsperson, the clearing of the spectators, and further proof of the judge's unmitigated hostility toward the defendants and their lawyers.

The 8 are charged with conspiracy to incite a riot at the Republican Convention last summer.

Judge Winston Arnow held the first hearing to decide whether to put a gag rule on the defendants to prevent them from speaking about their case and whether to ban demonstrations completely or within a certain radius of the courthouse. VVAW/WSO has planned five days of demonstrations, rallies and outreach for July 31-August 4, to coincide with the beginning of the trial.

During cross examination of a VVAW/WSO national coordinator, Brian Adams, prosecuting attorney Guy Goodwin began demanding names of people (as he has done at numerous grand juries all over the country) who would be planning and directing pre-trial activities. The questioning was more like an FBI interrogation than a cross examination. Defense attorney Morton Stavis pointed out to the court that it is irrelevant who plans the action and such testimony was already covered in direct examination, but Judge Arnow allowed the line of questioning to continue.

Finally, an enraged spectator shouted, "No!" Deputies picked out Walter Klim, a VVAW/WSO organizer, as the man who shouted and hauled him to the bench. Despite his denials and many from the audience, Arnow chastised him and fined him $25 for contempt. When Frank Hall came forward to say he'd done the shouting, the defendants pointed out that the deputies had been lying about who did the shouting, and said they should be reprimanded and disciplined.

The judge's response was to have all of them plus Klim and Hall arrested and taken to jail for contempt. On their return to the court, without a hearing, without a defense statement, without formal sentencing, Arnow put all the defendants on probation for the rest of their trial. He gave Hall a suspended sentence, and gave Klim a warning.

During the pandemonium which followed the shouting, a local radio newsman yelled, "He's lying," while pointing to the deputy. The newsman received a severe tongue lashing and reprimand from Arnow and did not return after the lunch recess.

Action against him is Judge Arnow's second attack on the media. CBS-TV was fined $500 for broadcasting artist Aggie Whalen's sketches after the judge told her not to sketch in the courtroom or from memory during a previous pre-trial hearing.

In a late hearing, the court heard conflicting testimony from two law enforcement informers who had done investigations of the VVAW/WSO before last summer's political conventions. Pablo Fernandez testified that he tried unsuccessfully to electronically monitor a conversation with Scott Camil, one of the defendants, and that on the one occasion he did get a recording, it was just to prove to the FBI that he had contact with Camil. He took the Fifth Amendment when asked if he had ever worked for the Miami Police Department.

The government prosecutors claim only one tape exists of a conversation between Fernandez and VVAW/WSO and that they have furnished a transcript of this tape to the defense. However, the defense maintains there are strong indications there was more than one instance of successful electronic surveillance (probably illegal) and that more tapes exist. Although the acknowledged tape has existed since July 1972, the prosecutor was denying any tape existed as recently as March 1973.

However, Arnow refuses to try to bring all evidence out into the light. When defense attorney Larry Turner was questioning Fernandez, Arnow would allow only the most limited questioning--directly about Fernandez and surveillance but with no mention of the FBI or the content of the conversations allowed.

The judge and prosecution seemed to be taking turns objecting to questions or instructing the witness not to answer. Arnow finally called a recess and took Turner into his chambers for instructions about limiting his line of questioning.

Angelica Rowan, who had worked with Fernandez while she was with the Florida Bureau of Law Enforcement, refuted most of his testimony. Definitely the most colorful witness of the day, she paid little attention to the prosecutor's objections or the judge's instructions but answered questions quickly and in detail.

She said Fernandez told her he had at least two recordings of surveillance calls to VVAW/WSO members and he had given copies of the results of this electronic surveillance to a number of law enforcement agencies. He told her he worked for the FBI and the Miami Police Department, and she thought he might have mentioned the CIA.

Rowan said Fernandez said it was very convenient for him to tell Ralph Arguirre of the Miami Police Department anything the Miami Police Department wanted to hear about the surveillance work, and that in return, Arguirre kept the heat off right-wing Miami Cubans.

The defense wanted to put prosecutor Goodwin on the stand to testify about electronic surveillance materials to see if Goodwin would continue to deny doing illegal electronic surveillance under oath. The judge refused to require Goodwin to testify despite a defense subpoena. The judge then

more.....

ruled there was no reason to think there were additional surveillance materials. He read his decision from a prepared statement, indicating he had his mind made up before any testimony at all.

In the course of the day's hearings, both defense attorneys Stavis and Doris Peterson addressed the court on the unfair treatment the defendants and their attorneys were receiving. Stavis pointed out to the court that while Goodwin was not required to testify, every defense affidavit had to be accompanied by intensive questioning.

Peterson also addressed the court on the continual difference in treatment of the prosecution and the defense. She used as examples the difference in latitude allowed the two sides in questioning witnesses, a different attitude from the judge in listening (or not listening) to each side, and demands made on the two sides in presenting necessary evidence. She closed by asking the court to excuse itself which of course Arnow refused to do.

Throughout the day's hearings, it seemed that the defense was battling a team made up of the judge and the prosecution. At times Judge Arnow seemed to be upholding objections and making his own to cut off the defense just to make the hearings move faster. At other times he seemed fearful of what information might come out--as when he would allow no testimony concerning the FBI. Over and over he said there was no time for more argument so the defense should sit down and be quiet.

Arnow is going to rule soon about whether there will be a gag rule for the defendants, on whether there will be a ban on demonstrations (or demonstrations near the courthouse) and whether the jury will be sequestered (to protect them from such "prejudicial publicity" as demonstrations). And Arnow still insists that the trial will take no more than three weeks.

* * *

The VVAW/WSO feel that it is important to get as many people as they can to come down to Gainesville for the demonstrations and protest activities which are planned for July 31-August 4. A campsite has been obtained and a number of activities are planned already. They include marches, rallies, a people's fair, and outreach into the city to tell people what VVAW/WSO really stands for. At the fair will be a slide show, guerrilla theater and booths covering the continuing war in Indochina, grand juries and repression in this country.

Caravans will be leaving from such cities as Buffalo, New York; Milwaukee, St. Louis, Cincinatti, Chicago and Tuscaloosa, Ala. For more information, contact the VVAW/WSO chapter in your area.

Also money is needed for the defense (at one point Arnow threatened to fine defense attorneys $25 for each question they asked that he objected to.) Send money (or food for the campsite) to Gainesville Conspiracy Defense Committee, PO Box 14078, Gainesville, Fla., 32601.

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DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR JULY BILLS FOLKS

WOMEN INCREASINGLY ACTIVE IN IRISH STRUGGLE, SEE STRENGTH GROWING

DERRY(LNS)-- Traffic was backing up. Soldiers nervously fingered their weapons as their commander tried to reason with "the girls." Two hundred women were sitting-in on the Strand Road, directly in front of the Derry Royal Ulster Constabulary Headquarters in early July.

Inside the building, some of its windows still shattered from a recent bomb attack, an 18-year-old man was awaiting transport to the Long Kesh concentration camp. Early that morning a jury had found him not guilty of illegal possession of firearms. As he left the courthouse, the Special Branch (British Army Intelligence) was waiting for him with a detention order. Under the Special Powers Act now in force in Northern Ireland, the Army and/or the police may detain people without charge or trial.

When word reached the town's shopping district, dozens of young women, many still in their blue and white checked sales outfits, headed down to the Strand Road. It's become a common sight in Ulster. Women taking to the streets, singing rebel songs and chanting exhortations: "If you killed a British bastard, clap your hands." They all clap their hands.

The British Army troops at the sit-in are nervous. They'd like to be able to laugh off these "birds", whistle them down a bit maybe. But after four years they've learned to fear them. The media portrays them as sinister individuals; when they're not tarring young lovers, they're luring innocent soldiers to their deaths with the promise of good time parties.

In truth, Irish women are participating in the struggle on a far wider scale. For the first time in their nation's eight hundred-year-old history of resistence to British rule, significant numbers of Irish women are beginning to take an active and equal part in the resistance organizations.

Gone is the old Cum Ann nanBann, the women's auxillary that used to knit socks and smuggle letters for "the Boys" in the IRA. In its place are women members of the IRA (both Officials and Provisionals). These women have participated with great courage in bomb attacks and armed actions against the occupation forces.

Larger numbers of women have begun to do political organizing for the Republican movement. Still larger numbers of women, those who remain partly pacified by the teachings of the church and the restrictions of large families, offer their homes and "domestic resources" to people on the run from the British.

These are the women you see banging garbage can lids and blowing tin whistles to warn their community of the approach of British soldiers.

Already seven women between the ages of 17 and 20 have been interned in Armagh Prison. The British, with their sexist logic, argue that the increased "use" of women by the IRA is proof of

their weakness.

Of course there is still plenty of struggling left to do inside the IRA. One woman activist from the Officials talked about some of her problems: "The movement has taken a position concerning women, yet you still find some of the men who will try to ignore what you're saying because you're a woman, and they call themselves socialist. But you know, that's just as bad as sectarianism or racialism or any of those things."

She went on, "It's really frustrating trying to get some of the women to do military training. They say, rely on the men, and I say fine, but what about Internment Day? It could happen again you know. What if they took all the men this time and we women were left behind? Who would carry on the struggle then? Who would have to? "

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[Thanks to David Helvarg for the info in this story.]

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[Note to editors: See graphics section of this packet for photo.]

TWO EX-PRISONERS FROM THIEU'S JAILS TESTIFY IN PARIS

by Schofield Coryell

LIBERATION News Service

Friends, stretch out your hands
Pass along the bowl of rice
From hand to hand the rice follows its rhythm
It is the rice of the prison
The rice of anger
The rice of the future
To nourish the heroes
Who pursue to their last breath
The struggle against the chains
Against the shadows of the jail.
Friends, stretch out your hands
Pass along the bowl of rice.

--South Vietnamese prison song.

PARIS (LNS)--Le Thi Do, a 27-year-old Vietnamese woman, and Thich Vien Hao, a 41-year-old Buddhist monk, testified in Paris in early July concerning their experiences as political prisoners in South Vietnam's jails.

"Each gesture from our friends around the world--each word and act of friendship--gives us strength and nourishment in the prison cells and torture chambers," Le Thi Do said. "And we always manage to learn about such things--the news somehow penetrates the walls...

"Two things enable us to resist in prison: the solidarity among the prisoners themselves on the inside, and the solidarity which those on the outside show toward us."

The two former prisoners, who were released after the signing of the Paris Accords, refuted Thieu's claim that he has no political prisoners, that all the prisoners held in his jails are either "communists" or "common law criminals."

Just before the signing of the Paris Accords last January, special tribunals were sent from prison to prison, explained Le Thi Do, to judge those who had been in jail but never been tried. The tribunals were supposed to reclassify the thousands of political prisoners into "common law criminals," and to sentence them to prison terms of ten years, 15 years, or sometimes life. Le Thi Do described how the prisoners refused to appear before the tribunal and how the soldiers had to drag them.

Le Thi Do told the story of her own arrest:

"I was arrested on March 2, 1969 while selling cakes in the market-place of Nha Trang. [A coastal town about half-way between Saigon and the 17th parallel.] I was led to the local police station where I was interrogated concerning an explosion that had just occurred in the neighborhood, killing several Americans. I knew nothing about it and told them so, but they held me there and tortured me for several days.

"Later some Americans came in to question me; they gave me some injections that caused me to lose my memory completely and produced in me such a hot and itching sensation that I felt like striking out against everyone."

She spent three years in the Nha Trang prison until her refusal to salute the Saigon flag marked her as a "rebellious element." She was then moved with some 300 other women to Thu Duc prison for women, which housed 3,000 adult prisoners and 300 children.

She related several incidents that occurred at Thu Duc, among them the story of Nguyen Thi Tam, who gave birth to a baby while in prison. Tam was beaten whenever she tried to nurse him, until both she and the child died.

Thich Vien Hao, who accompanied Le Thi Do to Paris, was arrested on July 10, 1969 in the Tam Bao pagoda. A hundred police and soldiers looking for NLF soldiers accused the monk of sheltering them. He was arrested and tortured and when he refused to express his support for the Saigon government, he was classified as a "military prisoner" at Phu Quoc and finally released to the PRG on March 18, 1973.

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BASEBALL FANS NO FAN OF NIXON

NEW YORK (LNS) -- Carrying on the family tradition of following spectator sports, Tricia Nixon Cox and her husband, Edward, attended the New York Yankees/Kansas City Royals baseball game at Yankee Stadium, on July 12.

When her presence was announced on the stadium scoreboard, the crowd of 18,000 booed loudly.

Turning to Tricia, Edward said, "You can't win them all."

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PLEASE PAY YOUR JULY BILLS -- SO FAR THIS MONTH WE'VE HARDLY RECEIVED ANY MONEY FROM SUBSCRIBERS. WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP. SUMMERS ARE ROUGH.

(NOTE TO EDITORS: SEE GRAPHICS FOR THIS STORY)

"LIFE IN THE IRON MILLS": AN LNS BOOK REVIEW

Life in the Iron Mills, by Rebecca Harding Davis, with a biographical interpretation by Tillie Olsen. Feminist Press Reprint no. 1, 174 pp., $1.95

Imagine you are a woman in the mid-1800s. You live in the booming industrial city of Wheeling on the Ohio River. You are the eldest daughter of a family of the privileged class, housed in comfort with servants, maybe even slaves. And each day, from your window, you see the long mule trains drag their loads of pig iron past your house; you watch men, women and children trudge past to work their fourteen hour days, six days a week in Wheeling's iron and cotton mills.

Public schools do not exist so you are tutored at home and then "finished" at a three-year Female Seminary in Pennsylvania. You return to Wheeling at 17, frustrated, with little to do except wait for the courting process to take its course. But because you physical appearance does not match the ideal of the times, your chances for marriage are slim and you remain virtually housebound for several years.

You read voraciously, look out the window, and dream. Walking becomes your only chance to escape the house and you do it often and long. You listen eagerly to bits of conversations and carefully observe what you can. And you start to write it all down.

Then one day in 1861, at the age of 30, you decide to send in one of your stories, parables, articles--you don't know what to call it--to Atlantic Monthly, an influential magazine of the time. To your utter surprise, Atlantic publishes your story and pays you $30--the first paid earnings in your life. No one in your family knows that you write, much less that you are published, so you decide not to tell them for fear of what they'd say.

In the case just described, "you" is Rebecca Harding Davis; the story Life in the Iron Mills. Republished in 1972 with a biographical interpretation of the author by Tillie Olsen, it is the first in a series of reprints of works of American feminist writers produced by the Feminist Press in Old Westbury, New York.

Life in the Iron Mills, is based on the life outside Rebecca's window, on the lives of those forced to toil from childhood in the mills, "thwarted, wasted lives...mighty hungers...unawakened power."

Although in life experiences they were light years apart, Rebecca Harding wrote about the working poor because she felt something in common with them. Her descriptions of Wheeling and the mills are vivid.

"A cloudy day; do you know what that is in a town of ironworks? The sky sank down before dawn, muddy, flat immovable. The air is thick, clammy with the breath of crowded human beings....I look on the slow stream of human life creeping past night and morning to the great mills. Masses of men, with dull, besotted faces bent to the ground, sharpened here and there by pain or cunning; skin and muscle and flesh begrimed with smoke and ashes; stooping all night over boiling caldrons of metal."

The story concerns Hugh Wolfe, a Welshman who at 19 has already worked in the iron mills for several years. Hugh is a quiet man who hasn't learned to drown his sorrows in drink as so many of his comrades seem to have done. He desperately wants to escape the drudgery and suffering but he doesn't know how.

In his spare moments, he sculpts powerful, often frightening figures out of a delicate, waxen substance called korl--refuse from the iron ore. Upon finishing these figures he almost invariably breaks them to bits in frustration.

Deborah, his cousin and the other main character in the story, is a frail and homely hunchback who works in the cotton mills. In some 70 pages Rebecca tells the story of a crisis in Hugh and Deborah's lives and of the tragedy that results. It's an incredibly sad tale, degenerating into melodrama only rarely. For the most part it vividly describes the nightmare of what it must have been like to work so long and hard and feel so trapped.

The following passage centers around Hugh the furnace-tender, and several young gentlemen, including Kirby, the son of the mill owner, who are passing through the works one evening. The visitors have noticed one of Hugh's korl figures and are impressed:

"The Doctor beckoned him [Wolfe] with the affable smile which kind-hearted men put on, when talking with these people.

"'Mr. Mitchell has picked you out as the man who did this--I'm sure I don't know why. But what did you mean by it?'

"'She be hungry.'

"'Oh-h! But what a mistake you have made, my fine fellow! You have given no sign of starvation to the body. It is strong,--terribly strong. It has the mad, half-despairing gesture of drowning.'...

"'Not hungry for meat,' the furnace-tender said at last.

"'What then? Whiskey?' jeered Kirby, with a coarse laugh.

"Wolfe was silent a moment, thinking. 'I dunno,' he said, with a bewildered look. 'It mebbe. Summat to make her live, I think,--like you. Whiskey ull do it, in a way.'"

Agitated by his friends' interest in Hugh, Kirby says, "I have no fancy for nursing infant geniuses. I suppose there are some stray gleams of mind and soul among these wretches....If I had the making of men, these men who do the lowest part of the world's work should be machines,--nothing more,--hands. It would be kindness. God help them. What are taste, reason, to creatures who must live such lives as that."

Tillie Olsen, in her biographical interpretation of Rebecca Harding, says that the author was able to capture the contempt and condescension in the gentlemen's voices by observing the men who came to visit her father.

Olsen also tells us about what happened to Rebecca after her initial success, about the many books that followed, not all good, and about the literary acclaim, the traveling and the interesting people which thrilled this woman who had been housebound for so long.

She also talks about Rebecca's marriage to Clarke Davis, a Philadelphia lawyer four years her junior, in 1863. "My summer days are coming now," Rebecca writes to a friend about her approaching marriage, and Olsen adds, "All that had been impressed on her from babyhood impelled her to the believing of it. 'Love and marriage--a woman's fulfillment.'"

Marriage, children, writing book after book to earn money to help her husband's struggling law practice, absorbed Rebecca's time for many years. Olsen describes it this way:

"Up two or three hours before Clark until 10 or 11 at night when he came home, Rebecca was running the house, seeing to the things that had to be done or doing them herself; mothering, teaching, when necessary nursing the boys; evading the neighbors ('Love they neighbor?...The well-to-do fat person across the way? I hate my kind when they come within meddling distance.')--and getting her writing done."

At least two of the novels she wrote during that time (The Wife's Story and Earthen Pitchers) concern women with a tremendous desire to do fulfilling work on their own (musical careers) but who, after much inner conflict, ultimately sacrifice it all for husband and babies. There's little doubt that Rebecca, who had always written about the "commonplace," was writing about herself here; that she too felt those conflicts but opted for a woman's traditional role.

During this time Rebecca also published a book called "Pro Aris et Focis" (For Altar and Hearth) which Olsen describes as "a small book all for domesticity, motherhood--and against women's rights." Some ten years later, with the children grown and more time for herself, Rebecca tried to pick up the pieces of her writing. She never really succeeded.

Tillie Olsen writes beautifully herself and her feelings for Rebecca Harding Davis are clear and strong; empathy with Rebecca as a woman, respect and gratitude for writing about the people she did.

"To those of us, descendants of their class, hungry for any rendering of what they were like, or how they lived, Rebecca Harding Davis's Life in the Iron Mills is tremendously precious."

* * *

To get a copy of Life in the Iron Mills or a catalogue of other books available from the Feminist Press (including Feminist Press Reprint #2, Daughter of Earth by Agnes Smedley) write to them at Box 334, Old Westbury, New York 11568. Tillie Olsen also has another book out--Tell Me A Riddle, available in paperback.

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FRENCH GOVERNMENT OUTLAWS LIGUE COMMUNISTE: 10,000 RALLY IN PROTEST

PARIS(LNS)-- Some 10,000 people jammed a Paris meeting hall on July 4 to protest the French government's June 28 decree outlawing the Ligue Communiste, and to demand the rêlease of two of the organization's leaders.

Charges against the two, Alain Krivine and Pierre Rousset, stem from the group's rôle in a June 21 demonstration called in response to a meeting held that night by the Ordre Nouveau, an extreme right-wing organization.

The meeting and demonstration focussed on the issue of immigrant workers in France and recent laws imposed to restrict their political activity. Seventy-three policemen were injured in the night's confrontations.

Krivine, the Ligue's general secretary, was arrested under the "antiwrecker law," which enables the government to hold a leader of an organization responsible for any violations of the law committed in a demonstration sponsored by that organization. Krivine was not even in Paris on the night of the 21st. Pierre Rousset was arrested in the Ligue's headquarters on June 22 when police came to ransack the office.

Both the Socialist and Communist parties, major political forces in France and normally at odds with the Trotskyist Ligue, have come to its defense and were active in organizing the July 4 rally.

To reduce public outrage and to rid himself of a tiny but angry right-wing opposition, French President Pompidou outlawed Ordre Nouveau as well as the Ligue, posing as an impartial guardian of the peace by outlawing groups at both ends of the political spectrum.

Thus far, no measures have been taken against Ordre Nouveau and none of its members have been arrested. The Ligue, which was the main organizing force behind this spring's strike by some 300,000 students, is clearly the target of the double ban. Its size and popularity constitute a greater threat to the rightward moving Pompidou government than does the small paramilitary force of the Ordre Nouveau.

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[Thanks to LNS correspondent Schofield Coryell and the Militant for the information in this story.]

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NOW HE TELLS US!

"I don't want a government of yes-men, but one in which dissenters will get a hearing...and one in which there will be a true ferment of ideas."
-- Richard Nixon, during the 1968 Presidential campaign.

SENATE REJECTS ONE WHITE HOUSE NOMINATION, APPROVES "LESS IMPORTANT" ONE; SULLIVAN TO BE PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR

WASHINGTON (LNS) -- After long debate the Senate Foreign Relations Committee rejected on July 11 Nixon's nomination of former Laos Ambassador, G. McMurtrie Godley, as an Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian Affairs. By a vote of 9 to 7, the committee moved that Godley's nomination be "indefinitely postponed," and that the State Department give Godley, a major figure behind the air war in Laos, an assignment not dealing with Southeast Asia.

Godley's rejection by the Fulbright Committee -- the first rejection by the Committee in any administration -- effectively removes him from further consideration for the post.

At the same time, the Committee approved by a 12 to 3 vote, the nomination of Godley's predecessor as Ambassador to Laos, William H. Sullivan, to be Ambassador to the Philippines. After his nomination left committee, Sullivan was quickly approved by a voice vote in the Senate.

Sullivan was Ambassador to Laos from 1964 until 1969, at which time he was replaced by Godley who served until this past April. During the Sullivan-Godley years, the United States dropped almost two million tons of bombs on Laos -- about two-thirds of a ton for every man, woman, and child in the country.

For five years until 1969, that bombing was kept a secret from the American people. Sullivan was directly in charge of all the CIA and mercenary personnel (Meo tribesmen trained and paid by the U.S.) involved. In addition he approved all bombing targets.

Continually Sullivan denied his activities and concealed the bombing from visiting members of Congress. When he finally admitted, before the Senate Subcommittee on Foreign Relations in 1969, that the bombing had been going on, he still denied that civilian targets had been attacked.

In fact, though, entire villages and towns had been eliminated. By the time he finished his term in Vientiane, there were 700,000 refugees in Laos -- out of a population of 3 million.

In 1969 when the bombing of Laos finally became known, Senator Stuart Symington asked Sullivan whether he thought "the President has the right to put U.S. military troops in airplanes over a foreign country...and direct the bombing of that country." Sullivan replied: "Yes sir." Similarly, a short while back he was asked what the justification for the current bombing of Cambodia was, to which he replied: "the re-election of President Nixon."

Godley has said that he "thoroughly enjoyed" his four years in Laos. He was often described in news accounts during that period as more of a military commander than a diplomat. According to reports, he seemed to enjoy the excitement of the role he played in planning air strikes.

Primarily because of such reports, he was rejected by the Senate. Senator Fulbright said that he was "disturbed" that Godley was so "deeply involved" in U.S. Asian policy.

The White House was quick to respond to Godley's rejection. Within hours after the Senate committee announced its decision, the White House issued a statement saying that "the President deeply regrets" the rejection of Godley.

The Committee felt that Sullivan's Manila post would have "less responsibilities" and that he would be "less important" than Godley.

Apparently Sullivan passed with the strong support of W. Averell Harriman, former U.S. Ambassador to the Paris peace talks. It was under Harriman during the Kennedy Administration, that Sullivan gained much of his counter-insurgence background. Though Sullivan has been in the Foreign Service since 1947, his career advanced slowly until he was noticed by Harriman at the 1962 Geneva negotiations on Laos.

For the Philippine people though, it is difficult to view Sullivan's appointment to their country as "less important." Since the declaration of martial law last September 26, Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos has used U.S. guns, bombs, planes and napalm extensively to suppress the guerrilla movement of the New People's Army and to protect the more than $3 billion in U.S. corporate investments in the islands.

As the 1969 Senate hearings on Laos noted, Sullivan had under his control all CIA, USIS, and USAID operations as well as the targeting for "Project 404" -- what one former member of the project called a "still classified bombing operation, personally controlled by the American Ambassador to Laos."

In fact a transcript of those hearings referred to Sullivan as "commander in chief of extensive military operations inside the country," a frightening prospect for a people already under martial law.

On May 10 of this year, Sullivan was asked by the Foreign Relations Committee whether the U.S. might intervene militarily in the Philippines if Marcos asked. He replied: "I think that depends on the decision of the President of the United States. He has the constitutional authority to make that decision."

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FRENCH SEE PROFITS IN PEACE IN SOUTH VIETNAM

SAIGON (LNS) -- Vietnam's former colonizers, the French, feel that there is much money to be made in peace as well as war. French companies, according to a recent issue of Business Week, are cautiously returning to invest in South Vietnam.

Michelin Tires, for example, which hung onto its 5,000 acres of rubber plantations throughout the war, has begun to replant trees. And Citroen is expanding a 4,000 unit assembly plant that it set up last year. The company, once a major exporter to Vietnam, foresees a 150,000-per-year auto market, if the war really ends. (MORE)

A long-time Indochina trader, Denis Freres, has interested the Thieu regime in the construction of a luxury hotel overlooking the Saigon River. And a French glassmaking firm wants to build a soft-drink bottling plant in Danang.

The Pompidou government is hard at work, aiding the French companies in investing in South Vietnam. It is even contributing $29 million to help the Vietnamese expand cement production, and the constfuction of the new cement plant will go to Polysius, a Paris-based engineering company.

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[Note to editors: See packets #514, and #538 for more background on the Oneita strike and graphics.]

WORKERS WIN AFTER 7-MONTH STRIKE AT ONEITA; VICTORY IS "A SHOT IN THE ARM."

ANDREWS, S.C. (LNS) -- The seven month long strike at Oneita Knitting Mills ended in victory July 10 for 700 striking textile workers at the Oneita plants in Andrews and Lane, South Carolina.

Oneita, which manufactures men's underwear, was struck by the Textile Workers Union of America (TWUA) in January after it had negotiated for 15 months, trying to win a first contract.

A shouting, chanting, singing group of over six hundred strikers met in the Andrews Lions Club and voted unanimously to accept the three-year agreement. The most important feature of the contract is the company's capitulation to the "union recognition" demand. This includes a signed agreement and dues checkoff clause which guarantees the legal life of the union in the shop.

Other benefits won by the strikers include 20 cent an hour increases in the first and second years of the contract, and a minimum of 25 cents in the third year. Before the strike they had been getting $1.60 an hour.

In addition, the first contract includes six paid holidays, hospitalization, and a paid pension program which gives employees credit for all past work. Oneita also agreed to the arbitration of grievances.

Oneita had moved its operations to South Carolina from Utica, N.Y. in the late 1950's to take advantage of the low-wage and non-union conditions in these poverty-ridden areas.

A six-month strike at the two mills in the early sixties, when the workers were organized by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, was defeated after the National Labor Relations Board told workers to return to their jobs while negotiations continued. In the meantime, without a union dues check-off -- when the company itself deducts dues for the union from the workers' weekly paychecks -- the union was broken within a few months.

"This is an important victory," said Irving Kahan, publicity director for the Textile Workers Union. "Many times we've had our brains knocked out down in the South but this gives us a shot in the arm."

The Union also said that the Oneita agreement would have a direct bearing on negotiations in at least five other plants in North and South Carolina. This involves some 6,000 textile workers who have also been trying to win their first contracts while their employers have been trying a wait-and-see-what-happens-at-Oneita position.

About a month after the strike began, the union launched a nationwide boycott against Oneita products. But the boycott had actually just gotten underway when the victory came.

Kahan attributed the success mainly to the efforts of the workers themselves, of which 75% are black and 85% women. "It was a combination of the strike and boycott but the fact that Oneita couldn't get out satisfactory merchandise was decisive. Most of the experienced workers were on strike."

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EMBARASSING TO THE BOYS ON THE BENCH, 10-YEAR OLD GIRL BARRED FROM LITTLE LEAGUE

PITTSBURGH, Pa. (LNS) -- U.S. Court Judge Barron P. McCume has ruled that Pamela McGill, a fifth-grader from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is ineligible because of her sex to play little league baseball in the local Avonworth Baseball Conference.

"I took her on April 6 to apply," said her mother, "and got a call on April 7 that she couldn't play because she was a girl."

Pamela has demonstrated considerable promise in baseball. A local radio station commented on her performance in a league game where she hit three home runs, a double and a triple.

However, during the testimony in court, members of the Avonworth little league board said that Pamela's admission to the league would downgrade the team talent, inhibit play, complicate the task of getting fathers to volunteer for coaching and managing, and greatly embarass boys who were benched while a girl was playing.

"And they testified that little girls are more susceptible to injury; that they shouldn't be taught to be competitive," Pamela's mother said.

"Then they said that baseball is a contact sport and they got her on the stand and asked her if she ever slid home or into second base on a force play."

A board member whose 10-year-old son is considered the fastest pitcher in the league, said he wouldn't permit him to pitch against a girl.

"The boys' natural instinct is to block or barrel players over at home plate," he said. "These are the same boys who play football in the fall."

"I doubt if there's any unconstitutional discrimination in this instance or discrimination of any kind, for that matter," Judge McCume declared.

Pamela and her family will appeal the decision.

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"MILK IS FOR CHILDREN, NOT FOR PROFIT"; 12 WOMEN ARRESTED IN CONGRESS IN MILK BILL PROTEST

WASHINGTON, D.C. (LNS) -- Twelve women were arrested in the gallery of the House of Representatives as they staged a protest against a new farm bill to be voted on which would raise the price of milk.

The women, from Women United for Action, in New York and Delaware, were charged with disrupting and impeding Congress and disorderly conduct.

The bill, which was passed later in the day, includes further restrictions on dairy imports and an increase of parity payments (artificial price supports which guarantee that dairy producers will be paid a certain amount regardless of the going price of milk.) The eventual result would be to raise the price of milk by 4¢ a gallon. The bill also exempts giant dairy cooperatives from anti-trust regulations which would enable them to push prices up even higher.

The women had tried to speak from the gallery, when one of the representatives finished speaking on the floor, to voice their opposition to the milk bill. They also dropped petitions from thousands of people on the east coast asking for a roll back of food prices. However, they were dragged away!

A few minutes later, another group of women stood up and unfurled a banner saying, "Milk is for Children, Not for Profit."

Women United for Action charges that "giant dairy cooperatives like Associated Milk Producers, Inc., Dairymen, Inc., and Mid-American Dairymen, Inc., have spent millions of dollars in what virtually amounts to payoffs to the Senate to push this anti-consumer milk provision into the farm bill.

"We've had enough of their excuses for raising prices. It's about time that the big food monopolies tightened their belts."

In January 1972 Ralph Nader filed a suit accusing the Nixon administration of raising the Federal price level for raw milk (which would give $500 million to $700 million extra to the dairy industry) in exchange for $442,100 in contributions from big dairy producers to the Nixon re-election campaign. (In 1971 the three big dairy lobbies gave a total of $317,000 to dummy committees organized for Nixon under titles like "League for a Better Nation" and "Americans Concerned.")

Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin announced on March 12, 1971 that the government would not increase the federally fixed price paid to the dairy industry for raw milk. March 22, the political arm of the Associated Milk Producers gave $10,000 to Nixon's campaign.

By March 23, a White House meeting had been arranged between Nixon, Hardin and 16 top executives of the largest milk marketing cooperatives. Two days later, the Agriculture Department announced the reversal of its 13-day decision to hold the line on prices.

An official of the Mid-America Dairymen's political fund admitted, in an affidavit submitted in Nader's suit, that the campaign contributions of the three big dairy producers "played a major role in this administrative decision."

Some of the people involved in lobbying for the milk price reversal or collecting the contributions from the dairy industry include Herbert Kalmbach, and Murray Chotiner.

Kalmbach recently made headlines when American Airlines announced that he had convinced them to contribute $55,000 to Nixon's re-election campaign. (Under election campaign laws, corporations can't contribute to campaigns). Kalmbach also administered a $500,000 fund of contributions made during 1971 and 1972 to Nixon's campaign just before the April 1972 deadline when contributions had to be reported. He is also the person who supposedly dispensed the cash to keep the Watergate defendants quiet.

Chotiner is an old Nixon cronie from way back. He helped plan some of the smear tactics Nixon used in his early red-baiting days, starting from his first campaign in 1946 against Congressman Jerry Voorhis. Chotiner supplied the names of the dummy committees through which the dairy producers could contribute to Nixon's campaign.

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SECURING SAN CLEMENTE: $750,000 SPENT FOR NIXON HOME IMPROVEMENTS

NEW YORK (LNS) -- Not long ago the Nixon administration came up with the idea of the "inoperative statement." Now it has the inoperative audit. Early in June the White House announced that a little under $40,000 had been paid out of tax revenues for improvements at Nixon's private home at San Clemente, California.

But two and a half weeks later, under pressure from West Coast reporters who had been investigating the subject, the White House conceded that the figure was slightly higher than previously reported -- actually more than ten times higher, $456,352.

Not totally satisfied, reporters kept digging and by the beginning of July, the White House revised its figure to almost three quarters of a million dollars, and in the same breath admitted that another $625,000 in tax money had been laid out for improvements at Nixon's home in Key Biscayne, Florida.

"We recognize there's quite a gap between the new figure for San Clemente and the figures we gave you before," said a spokesman for the General Services Administration (GSA). "But we were giving out information piecemeal before, and now we have a very thorough search of the record."

As per usual, the Nixon administration cited security as the reason for the costly improvements. The GSA insists that virtually all of the improvements were requested by the Secret Service. If that's true, it seems that the Secret Service has become more concerned with aesthetics and comfort than safety.

Among the more curious items in the San Clemente figures: $8,395 for a bullet resistant screen protecting the pool from the ocean (since there seems to be no real threat from the Pacific, it has been

(CONTINUED ON INSIDE OF FRONT COVER)

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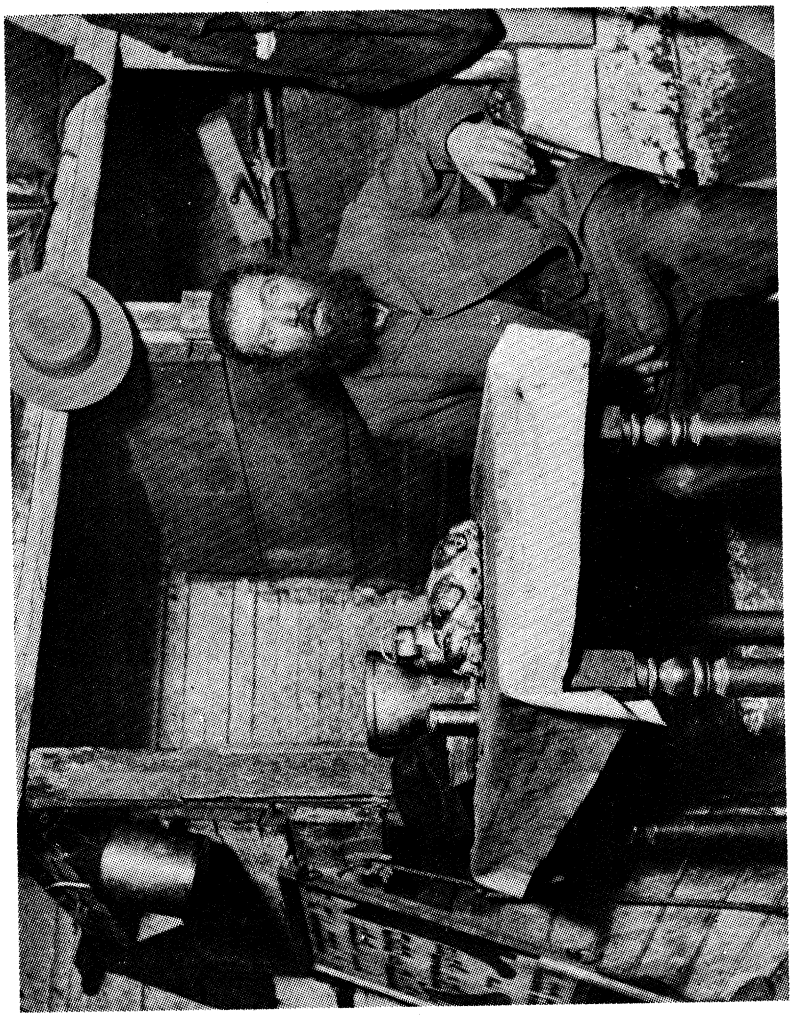
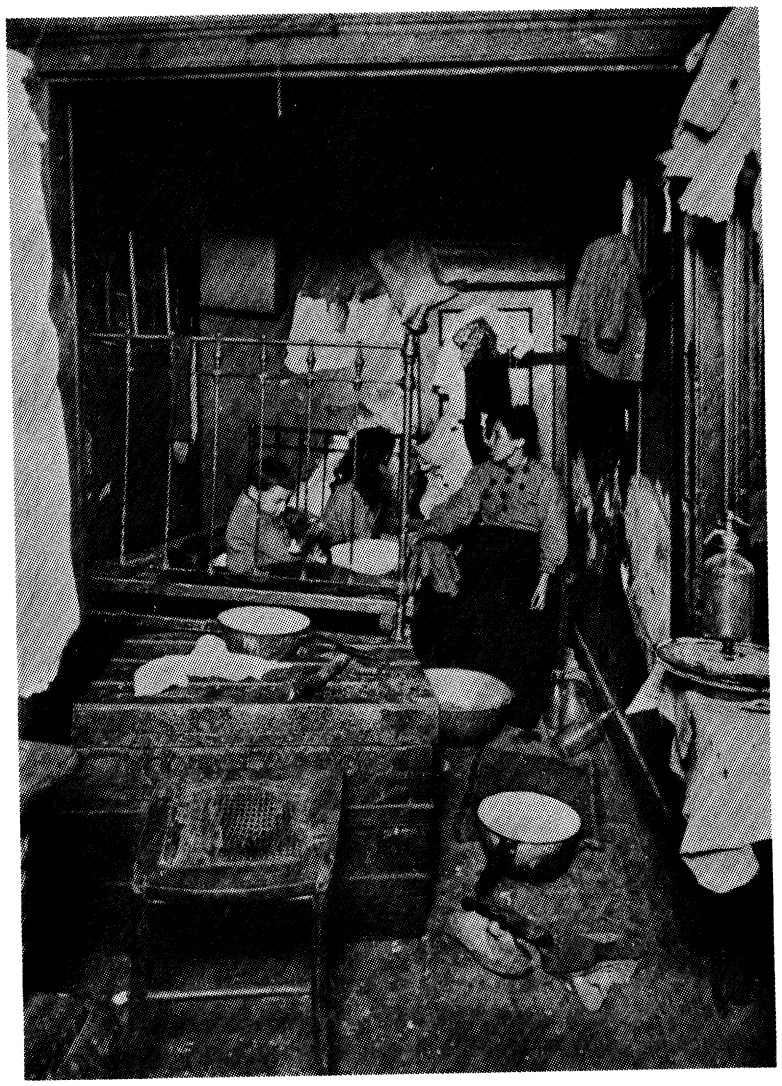




TOP RIGHT: Photo by Jacob Riis, taken in New York City in the 1880's.

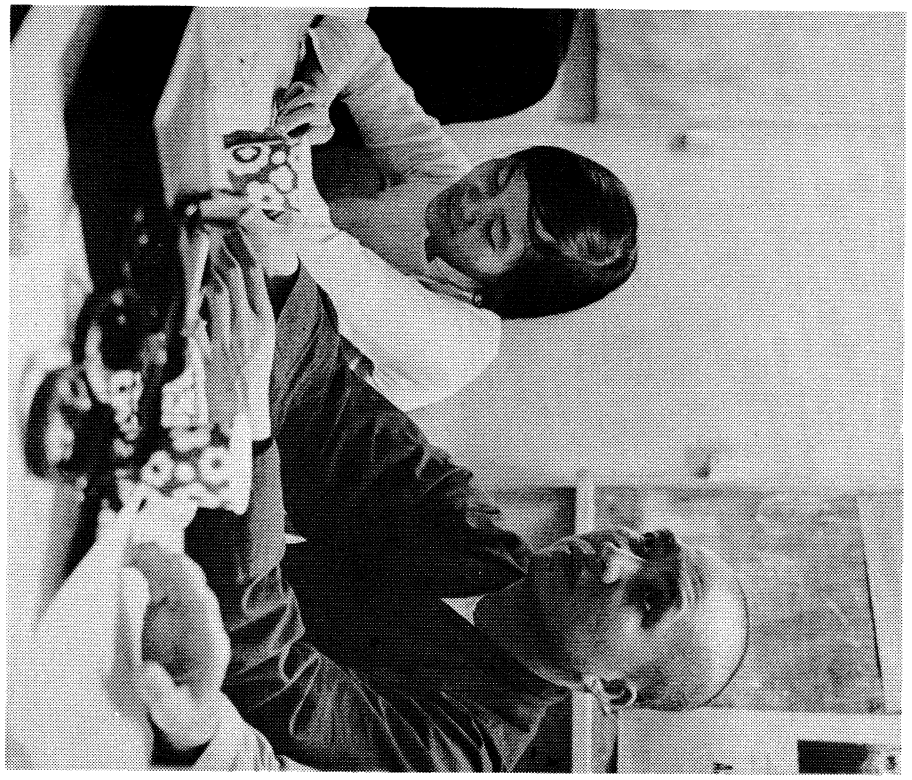
TOP LEFT: Photo by Lewis Hine.

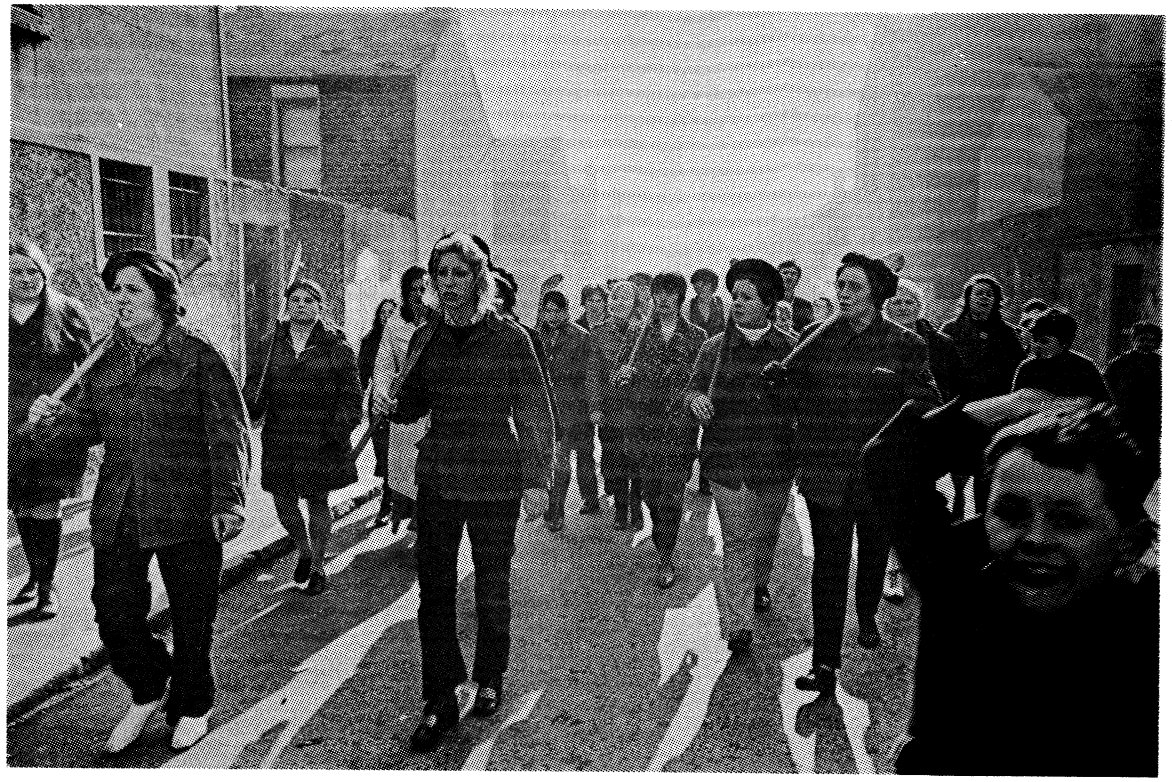
These four photos of living conditions and child labor around the turn of the century can be used with the review of "Life in the Iron Mills" on page 6.

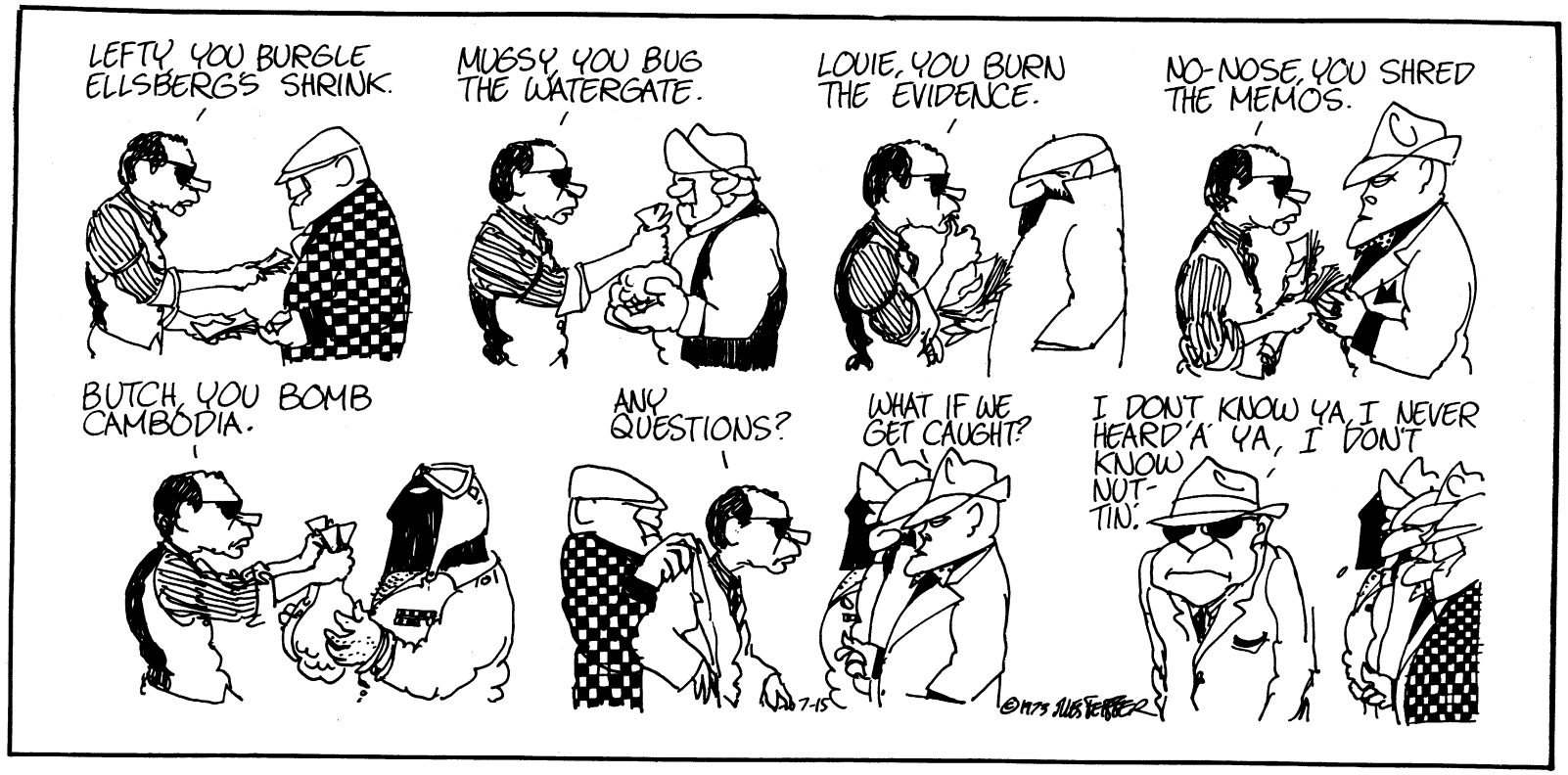
They were taken 1880 to 1910 which is after the book was written, but they give a similar picture of living and working conditions around the country.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Photo by Jacob Riis, taken in New York City in the 1880's.

BOTTOM LEFT: Photo by Lewis Hine.






LEFTY, YOU BURGLE ELLSBERGS SHRINK.
MUSSY, YOU BUG THE WATERGATE.
LOUIE, YOU BURN THE EVIDENCE.
NO-NOSE, YOU SHRED THE MEMOS.
BUTCH, YOU BOMB CAMBODIA.
ANY QUESTIONS?
WHAT IF WE GET CAUGHT?
I DONT KNOW YA, I NEVER HEARD'A YA, I DONT KNOW NUT-TIN'.
7-15
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I'M PUTTING YOU IN CHARGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
RIGHT, SIR!
THAT'S A NICE TREE YOU'VE GOT THERE...
THANK YOU
...FOR TEN DOLLARS A MONTH WE'LL SEE THAT NOTHING HAPPENS TO IT.

WINNER OF 1 D

TOP LEFT: Women marching in Northern Ireland.
This can go with the story on page 4.
Photo by P. Michael O'Sullivan in book,
Patriot Graves.

BOTTOM LEFT: Le Thi Do (left) and Thich Vien Hoa, who were released from South Vietnamese prisons in March, at a press conference in Paris.
SEE THE STORY ON PAGE 5.
CREDIT: APL/LNS